



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

TOPOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

—o—o—o—

PARISH OF MOLD, FLINTSHIRE.

[Concluded.]

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICES.—It has happened, that a few notices, of no great importance however, have been either accidentally omitted in their proper places, or purposely reserved for the present occasion, as not strictly belonging to any of the heads already adopted. Such additional information, therefore, will now be communicated in this supplementary article.—In the account given of the destruction of Mold Castle by Llywelyn ab Iorwerth in 1201 * it should have been noticed, that the event is recorded by Llywarch Prydydd y Moch, a contemporary poet, in an Ode addressed by him to that Prince. In this poem he makes express mention, on three occasions, of the capture and destruction of Wyddrugg. The following is a translation of one of the passages, which also shews, that Mold was at that time held as a feudatory appendage to Chester.

Caer Lleon†, the Ruler of Mona, the possession of Pabo‡ will capture thee,

He will drive thee to an extremity :

Llywelyn, even he, hath already burnt thy country,

He hath slain thy men beyond the tide and beyond the strand,

He hath entirely captured Wyddrugg ; no feigned flight

Had the Loegrians with perturbed mind to contemplate.

A prince's splendid territory § hath been wofully devastated,

His cloisters have been destroyed, and his holy houses, are they not ashes || ?

* No. 4, p. 137.

† Chester.

‡ Pabo was a Cumbrian chief of the fifth century. Upon his country being overrun by the Saxons and Picts he took refuge in Wales, where he led a holy life, and founded a church in Anglesey, still called Llan Babo. Hence, perhaps, his connection with Mona above alluded to.

§ This must have reference to the dominions of the Barons of Mounthawlt or Wyddrugg, who held this place as a fief under the Earls of Chester, as before stated. See No. 4, p. 138.

|| The following is the original passage :

Caer Lleon, llyw Mon, mwyn Pabo, a'th dug

Ef a'th dwg ynghodo :

Llywelyn, ef hoesges dy fro,

Llas dy wyr tra llyr, tra llwyfo,

Llwyd dug y Wyddrugg, nid ffug ffo

Lloegrwys i llugfryd i synnio ;

Lleudir teyrn lluddiwyd yn agro,

Llas ei glas, ei glwyadai, neud glo ?

In addition also to the three places, in which the destruction of the Castle of Wyddrugg is expressly mentioned, the poet in two other instances alludes to a sanguinary battle fought between Llywelyn and the English, or Normans, as they are called, on the banks of the Alyn, and therefore, most probably, in the same neighbourhood. On one occasion he speaks of "myriads" being slain in the conflict, and in the other compares it with the celebrated battle of Camlan, in which Arthur fell.—It should also be noticed, that there is a place in the township of Treuddyn called Tre Llywelyn, which may have derived its name from the same chieftain. An old Welsh MS., however, written in 1534, entitled the "Chronicle of Gwynedd," relates, that this place was so called on account of a battle fought there between Llywelyn, the son of David, Prince of Wales*, and some English, who occupied a place called Ffrith in that neighbourhood. The stations, possessed by the respective forces, are particularly described, and it is added, that a great slaughter ensued, and that David, son of Llywelyn, was among the number slain. A remarkable stone in the neighbourhood, supposed to have been anciently used for sepulchral purposes, is also thought to have had some reference to this battle. This stone, which is in length about two yards nine inches, one yard and thirty-two inches in height, and in breadth seventeen inches, is called Careg y Llech, and gives name to the eminence, on which it stands. There are likewise in the names and other circumstances belonging to this part of the country strong grounds for believing, that an important conflict took place here at some distant period.—To the account, already given by Mr. Edward Llwyd †, of a bed of muscles discovered in the year 1699 in this parish, the following certificate, to which the learned writer refers in his letter, may now be added, and will serve to confirm his statement.—"July 1st, 1699, We the persons undernamed do certify, that on the 27th of May 1699, in sinking to lay the foundation of a building near the town of Mold about three quarters of a yard deep in hard gravel, where no

* There does not appear to have been any Llywelyn, the son of David, on the throne of North Wales: but Llywelyn ab Iorwerth, who may be the prince here meant, succeeded his uncle Davydd ab Owain Gwynedd in the sovereign power. Yet, although he had a son named David, he could not have been slain, as mentioned in the MS. above quoted, since he survived his father, and reigned in Gwynedd from 1240 to 1246. The account, therefore, here given of the battle at Tre Llywelyn, is not without some ambiguity.

† No. 5, p. 152.

water came, were found four muscles, nothing differing (that we could perceive) from those of the sea, having their fish in them alive and fresh and full of liquor. Witness our hands the day and year above written: Edward ab Rondle, David Howell, Peter Williams."—Although there are no hills in this parish remarkable for their height, the following eminences should have been previously noticed. The names, retained by most of them, seem to indicate, that they were formerly connected with some interesting events, of which the particulars are no longer known.—1. Bryn y Bal. 2. Gwaun yr Wyddfid. 3. Moel y Windeg. 4. Rhos Treuddyn. 5. Yr Orsedd Vawr *. 6. Rhos Ithel. 7. Careg y Llech, before noticed.—It should likewise have been mentioned under the head of Natural History, that there are three wells or springs of ancient note in the parish, viz. Ffynnon Maes Garmon, already alluded to, Ffynnon St. Catrin, and Ffynnon y Bedi.—It only remains to take a short notice of the Dissenting Chapels in this parish, which are seven in number. Of these three belong to the Calvinistic Methodists, two to those of the Wesleyan connection, and two to the seceders, known by the name of Independents. Three of these places of worship are in the town. There is also a Roman Catholic Chapel, situate in Nerquis, for the accommodation of a few persons in that part of the parish, belonging, for the most part, to Miss Giffard's family, the remnant of a small colony of papists introduced by the late Mr. Giffard, who was of the same persuasion. And the present proprietor of Nerquis Hall, although a protestant, continues, from motives at once disinterested and laudable, to support the establishment.

* *

PARISH OF LLAN-SILIN, IN THE COUNTY OF DENBIGH.

INDEX OF SECTIONS.

- § 1. Name of the Parish—Patron Saint—Church—List of Vicars.
- 2. Situation—Extent—Divisions.
- 3. Soil—Substrata—Minerals—Fossils.
- 4. Roads—Romans Roads—Mediolanum.

* This hill probably took its name from having been formerly a place, where the bards held their meetings or *gorseadau*. And the name of *Gorsedd Vawr*, or the Great Congress, seems to indicate, that it was a place of note in this respect.